

## **SUMMARY**

# **URBAN BIODIESEL PRODUCTION**

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Biodiesel is a renewable, alternative fuel produced from vegetable oils, animal fats, and recycled cooking greases. It can be substituted for diesel fuel or blended into diesel fuel in any proportion. Most people use a blend of 20% biodiesel in diesel fuel called B20 in their state, federal, and local vehicle fleets and in utility applications. Other applications include construction equipment, urban bus fleets, school bus fleets, agricultural equipment, generators, and boats. Making biodiesel in urban areas offers many benefits to the urban community. These benefits include local fuel security, air pollution reduction, lower air toxic emissions, lower environmental impacts of spills and other unintentional environmental hazards, new jobs, cost savings to the local sanitation plant from avoided sewage line blockages and lower operating costs, and less illegal dumping of waste oils. Most large metropolitan areas can support a biodiesel production facility based on their generation of used cooking oils and waste greases. These facilities can be expanded if supplies of oils, such as soy, canola, or mustard oils, from agricultural areas are available. Biodiesel production can strengthen ties between urban and agricultural communities. Large metropolitan areas should consider the potential for biodiesel production in their communities.